



United Nations
Climate Change

SBSTA agenda item 2d (k)

Sixth and last progress update on the development of the training programme for technical experts participating in the technical expert review of the BTR

Training and Certification Unit

18 June 2025

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Mandates

- Requested the SBSTA to develop, pursuant to the MPGs, a training programme for technical experts participating in the technical expert review. (*Para 12(c)*)
- Technical experts shall complete the training programme referred to in decision 18/CMA.1, paragraph 12(c), prior to serving on a technical expert review team. (*Annex, para 173*)

Decision 18/CMA.1 2018

- Adopted the training programme for technical experts participating in the technical expert review of BTRs, as contained in its annex VII. (*Para 1(e)*)
- Requested the secretariat, incorporating, as appropriate, technical advice from the CGE and LRs, to **develop the training programme** for technical experts participating in the BTR reviews, as outlined in annex VII, taking into account experience and lessons learned from developing existing training programmes under the Convention. (*Para 30*)

Decision 5/CMA.3 2021

- Requested the secretariat to **implement the training programme** for technical experts participating in the BTR reviews, as outlined in annex VII, taking into account technical advice from the CGE and LRs to the secretariat. (*Para 31*)
- Make available the training courses providing a **general overview of the ETF under the Paris Agreement by 1 March 2023**, and **other courses** relating to information to be reviewed in accordance with decision 18/CMA.1, annex, paragraph 150 **by September 2023**. (*Para 33*)
- Requested the secretariat to **report to the SBSTA on progress in the development of the training programme at its 57th session** and at each subsequent session until the development of the training programme has been completed. (*Para 32*)

Decision 5/CMA.3 2021



5th Progress update during SBSTA61

The secretariat presented:

- Progress on the development and implementation of the training programme
- Update on the status of content development of the training programme and the proposed approach for developing Course E
- The result of the examinations till 2024 (except fifth period)
- The timeline and plan for examination in 2025





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Progress to date: Implementation of the TER training programme

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Structure of Courses

BTR Review Training Programme

- A. General and cross-cutting aspects for the technical expert review under the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement
- B. Greenhouse Gas Inventory
- C. Tracking Progress in Implementing and Achieving NDCs
- D. Financial, technology development and transfer and capacity building support
- E. Information on climate change impacts and adaptation reported under Article 7 of the Paris Agreement

All courses are/will be accessible online with open access, downloadable material, self-paced, and include practical exercises

Training programme website



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Implementation Approach

Three elements of the training programme:

1. Training courses

- ✓ Five courses (Courses launched: A - March 2023, B - D: Sep 2023, E: Dec 2024)
- ✓ Online, open access, interactive e-learning and PDF versions
- ✓ B2-B6 and E only PDF version – due to resource constrains
- ✓ Course E – developed in partnership and technical support from Woodwell Climate Research Center, Toolbox (published in May 2025)
- ✓ Improvements of courses – under development



Implementation Approach

Three elements of the training programme:

2. Learning

-  Self-learning, open access (no registration, no login accounts), UNFCCC website
-  Prior to examination - an online live Questions and Answers (Q&A) session - to answer substantive queries
-  Courses facilitated by instructors to be organized - contingent on the availability of resources
-  Additional learning assistance opportunities such as webinars and in-persons hands-on activities depending on the availability of financial resources



Implementation Approach

Three elements of the training programme:

3. Certification through graded examination



Standardized approach



Periodic exam (5 periods in 2024, 4 periods in 2025), online/mixed examination (multiple-choice, true/false and matching options)



Total 3 attempts per year per exam (reduce no shows, manage admin cost)



Main period (2 weeks) and retake period (10 days) after gap of 5 days



Certificates after retake period



Exceptions for experienced experts



Examinations for new reviewers

Course A: Overview

All experts to take part in the technical expert review teams

Course B-1: General guidance and cross-cutting issues, and

- **At least one of the sectoral courses: B-2 to B-6**

Review of national GHG inventory reports

Review of information necessary to track progress made in implementing and achieving NDCs

Course C-1 Description of the NDCs

Course C-2 Tracking progress of the NDCs

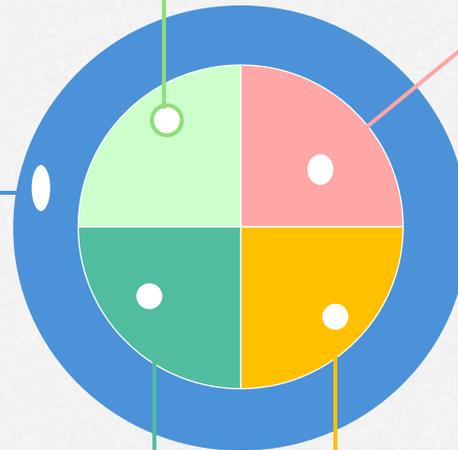
- **And at least one of the following courses:**
 - **Course C- 3 Mitigation actions, and**
 - **Course C- 4 GHG emissions projections**

Course E

Voluntary review of information related to climate change impacts and adaptation under Article 7 of the Paris Agreement

Review of information on financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support provided

Course D: FTC support provided



Examinations for experienced reviewers

- If the expert has participated as GHG inventory expert in the technical review, no needed to take B exams

Course A: Overview

All experts to take part in the technical expert review teams

Review of national GHG inventory reports

Review of information necessary to track progress made in implementing and achieving NDCs

- All experts: Course C-1 Description of the NDCs,
- All experts: Course C-2 Tracking progress of the NDCs
- If the expert has participated as PAMs and/or Projection expert in the technical review, no needed to take:
 - Course C- 3 Mitigation actions, and
 - Course C- 4 GHG emissions projections

Course E

Voluntary review of information related to climate change impacts and adaptation under Article 7 of the Paris Agreement

Review of information on financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support provided

- If the expert has participated as FTC expert in the technical review, no needed to take D exam

2025 examination periods

Publicly available - for planning

Examination periods (2025)	1 st Period (All courses)	2 nd Period (All courses)	3 rd Period (All courses)	4 th Period (All courses)
Registration periods	13–26 Jan	7–20 Apr	23 June–6 July	1–14 Sep
Q&A sessions	6 Feb	2 May	17 July	25 Sept
Examination dates	10–23 Feb	5–18 May	21 Jul–3 Aug	29 Sept–12 Oct



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Next steps

- ✔ Continue to run examination periods
- ✔ Development of online/interactive version of sub-courses B2-B6 and course (pending availability of resources)
- ✔ Update of courses (PDF and interactive version) – Course A, Course C and Course D planned, Continuous update of Toolbox – course E
- ✔ Periodic update to CGE on the implementation of the training programme
- ✔ Organize additional learning opportunities, hands-on training, mainly to new experts (pending availability of resources)





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Course on Voluntary Review of Adaptation Chapter

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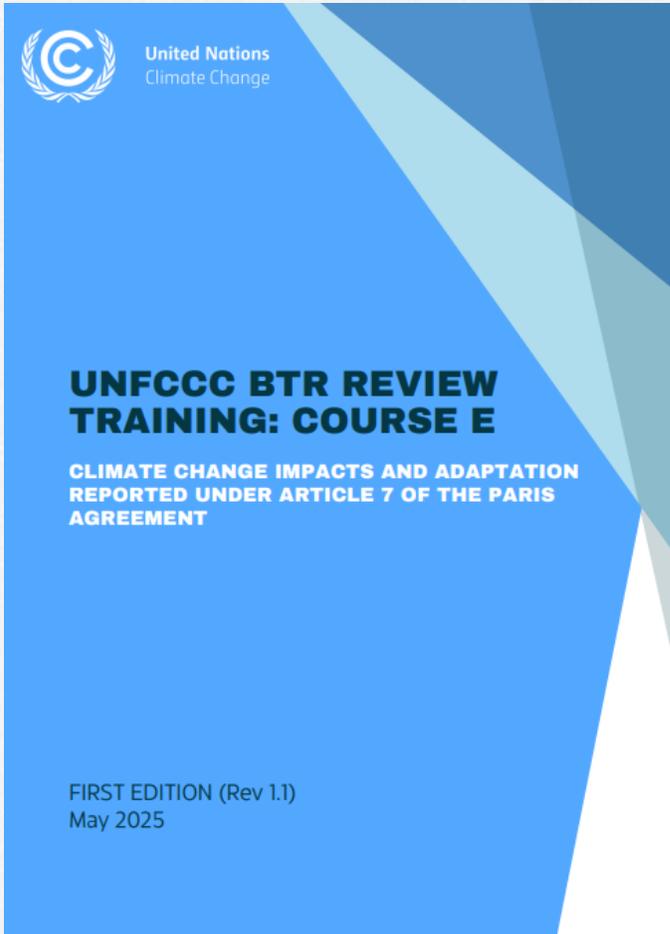
Mandates

Decision 9/CMA.4

- Decides that a Party may, on a voluntary basis, request the secretariat to organize a review of the information reported by the Party pursuant to decision 18/CMA.1, annex, chapter IV, as part of the technical expert review pursuant to decision 18/CMA.1, annex, chp. VII. *(Para 1)*
- The voluntary review consists of: *(Para 2)*
 - Reviewing the information reported by the Party in its biennial transparency report, in accordance with the modalities, procedures and guidelines contained in decision 18/CMA.1, annex, chp. IV
 - Facilitating the improvement of the reporting of information pursuant to decision 18/CMA.1, annex, chp. IV, by identifying, in consultation with the Party, areas of improvement and capacity-building needs related to reporting
- Further decides that the Party undergoing the voluntary review may select specific sections of the chapter in the biennial transparency report pursuant to decision 18/CMA.1, annex, chp. IV, for particular attention by the expert review team conducting the review. *(Para 3)*
- Requests the secretariat to include in the technical expert review team for conducting the voluntary review an expert with expertise in the areas outlined in decision 18/CMA.1, annex, chp. IV, who has completed the course on general and cross-cutting aspects for the technical expert review under the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement referred to in decision 5/CMA.3, annex VII, and the training course referred to in paragraph 8 below, taking into account decision 5/CMA.3, para. 34; *(Para 6)*
- Requests **the secretariat to develop and implement a training course for experts participating in the review**, as part of the training programme outlined in decision 5/CMA.3, annex VII, and taking into account decision 5/CMA.3, paras. 33–34. *(Para 8)*



Course E: TER of information on climate change impacts and adaptation reported under Article 7 of the PA



Course description

The course aims to offer the necessary information in a practical format to familiarize experts with the essential steps and processes of the voluntary review of the information related to climate change impacts and adaptation within the TER

Course Toolbox

Course E Toolbox to facilitate reporting and review of information on climate change impacts and adaptation reported under article 7 of the Paris Agreement.

This toolbox identifies guidelines, methodologies and other sources of information that can facilitate reporting by Parties and review by technical review experts on climate change impacts and adaptation in their biennial transparency reports (BTRs). For each of the types of information identified in chapter IV of decision 18/CMA.1, this toolbox lists, in a non-exhaustive manner, relevant guidelines, methodologies and other sources of information, provides a brief description of each, and includes relevant hyperlinks for accessing those resources. This information can be useful for the reviewers engaged in voluntary reviews of the information on climate change impacts and adaptation to orient Parties towards resources that could help facilitate reporting over time.

The resources listed in the below tables are arranged according to Chapter IV of the MPGs. In addition to the resources specific to the different information types in the MPGs, Parties and technical review experts may also wish to consult the recent overarching resources made available by the UNFCCC Adaptation Committee and the LDC Expert Group (LEG):

- The 2024 report [30 Year of Adaptation under the Convention and the Paris Agreement](#), which reflects on key milestones, challenges, and progress in adaptation efforts since the UNFCCC's inception.
- The [Interactive Country Portal](#), a one-stop resource showcasing adaptation efforts across all Parties to the UNFCCC, organized around the iterative adaptation cycle.
- The [NAP tracking tool](#) provides information on the status of NAP formulation and implementation.
- The UNFCCC secretariat has also made available a range of [supplementary materials to NAP technical guidelines](#), which offer in-depth coverage of selected steps of the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs).



Structure of Course E

E1: Overview of the voluntary reviews of the information on impacts and adaptation

- Key reporting and reviewing provisions on impacts and adaptation
- Scope and principles of the review process
- Information related to reporting “vehicles”
- Other cross-cutting topics

E2: Impacts, vulnerabilities, plans and actions

- A. National circumstances, institutional arrangements and legal frameworks
- B. Impacts, risks and vulnerabilities
- C. Adaptation priorities and barriers
- D. Adaptation strategies, policies, plans, goals and actions to integrate adaptation into national policymaking

E3: Progress in implementation / monitoring and evaluation

- E. Progress on the implementation of adaptation
- F. Monitoring and evaluation of adaptation actions and processes

E4: Averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage

- G. Averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with climate change impacts

E4: Good practices, lessons learned and other matters

- H. Cooperation, good practices, experience and lessons learned
- I. Other matters





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TER training programme outcome in numbers

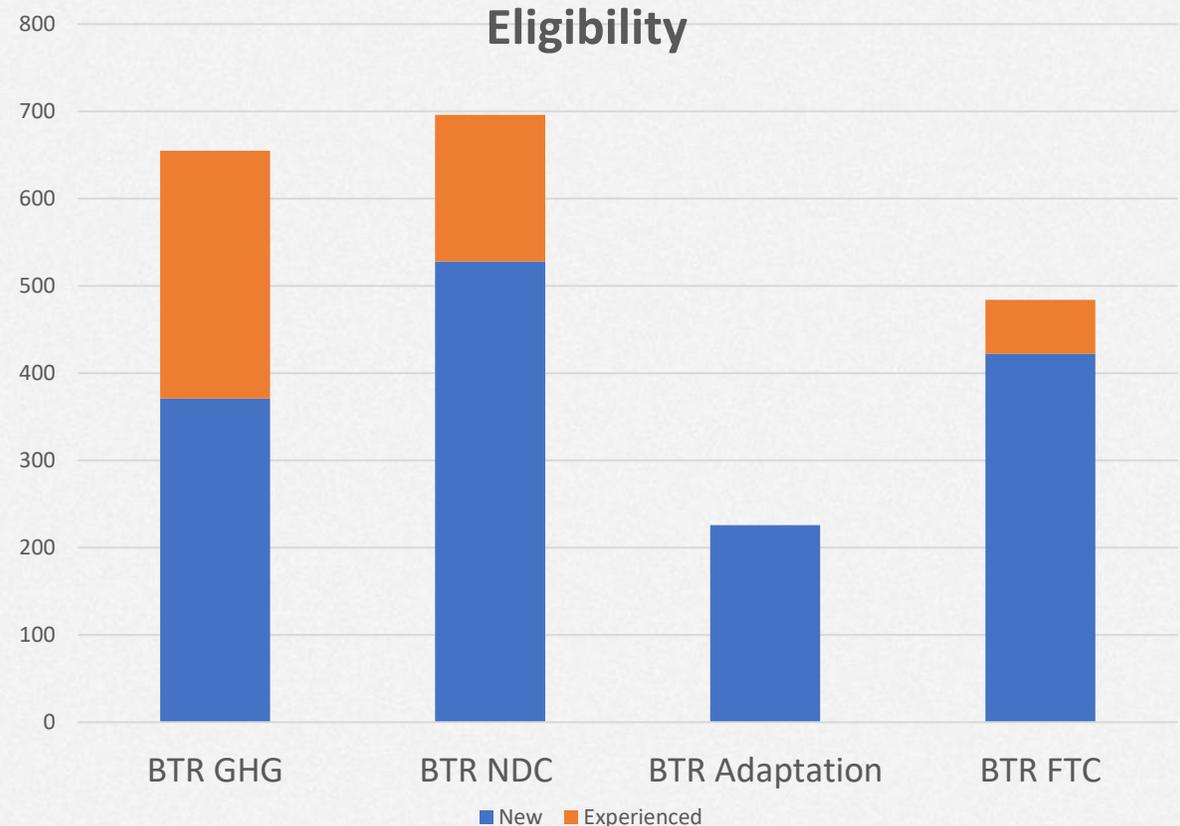
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BTR Exams Statistics

Exam periods - 2023 (5 periods), 2024 (5 periods) & 2025 (2 periods)

- 12 examination periods until now: 5 in 2023, 5 in 2024 and 2 in 2025
- In 2023 over 1,100 experts on the Roster of Experts registered, with an average passing rate of 98.5%
- In 2024, over 4,200 experts on the Roster of Experts registered, with an average passing rate of 78.8%
- In 2025, so far over 900 experts on the Roster of Experts registered, with an average passing rate of 76.6%



*Experienced based on the definition of para.8 decision 5/CMA.3, Annex VII



Eligibility based on exams taken until May 2025

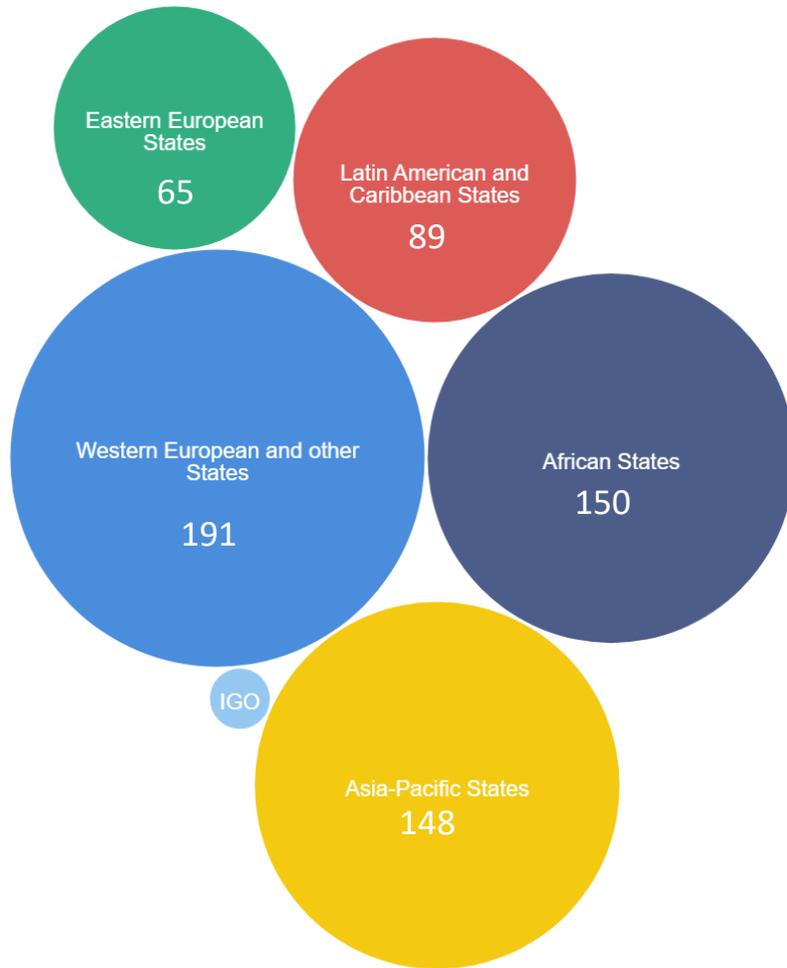
Experts who passed Course A plus other courses to become:

NDC PaMs (New)	135
NDC PaMs (Experienced)*	66
NDC Projection (New)	46
NDC Projection (Experienced)*	58
NDC PaMs & Projections (New)	347
NDC PaMs & Projections (Experienced)*	44
FTC (New)	422
FTC (Experienced)*	62
GHG (New)	371
GHG (Experienced)*	284
Adaptation	226

*Experienced based on definition of para.8 decision5/CMA.3, Annex VII

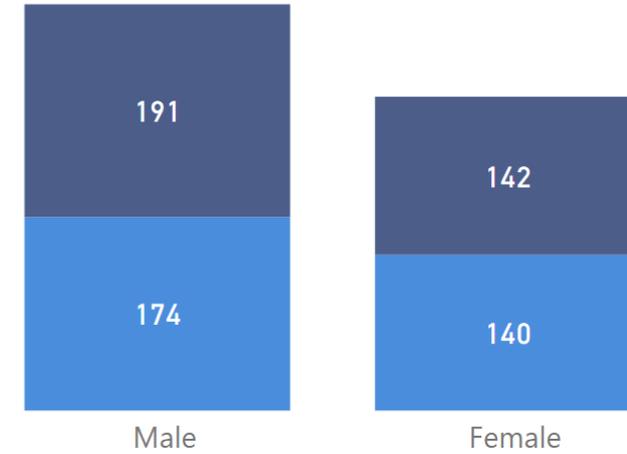


GHG eligible experts per UN Region



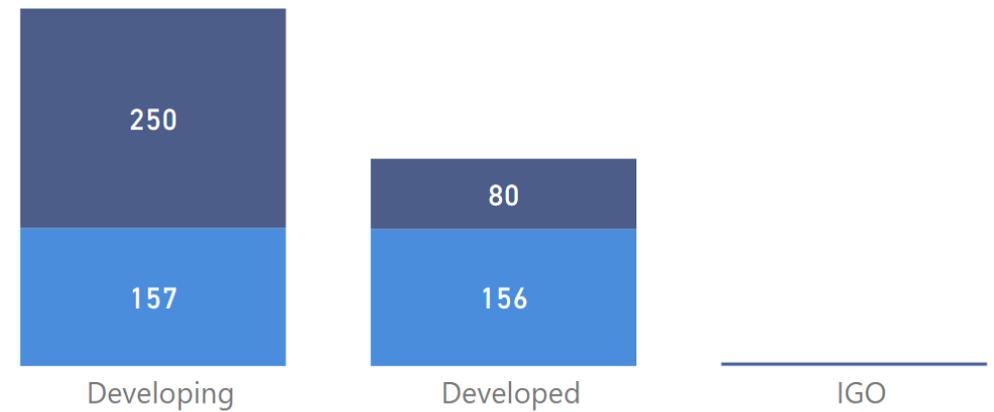
GHG Eligible experts by gender and experience

● Experienced ● New



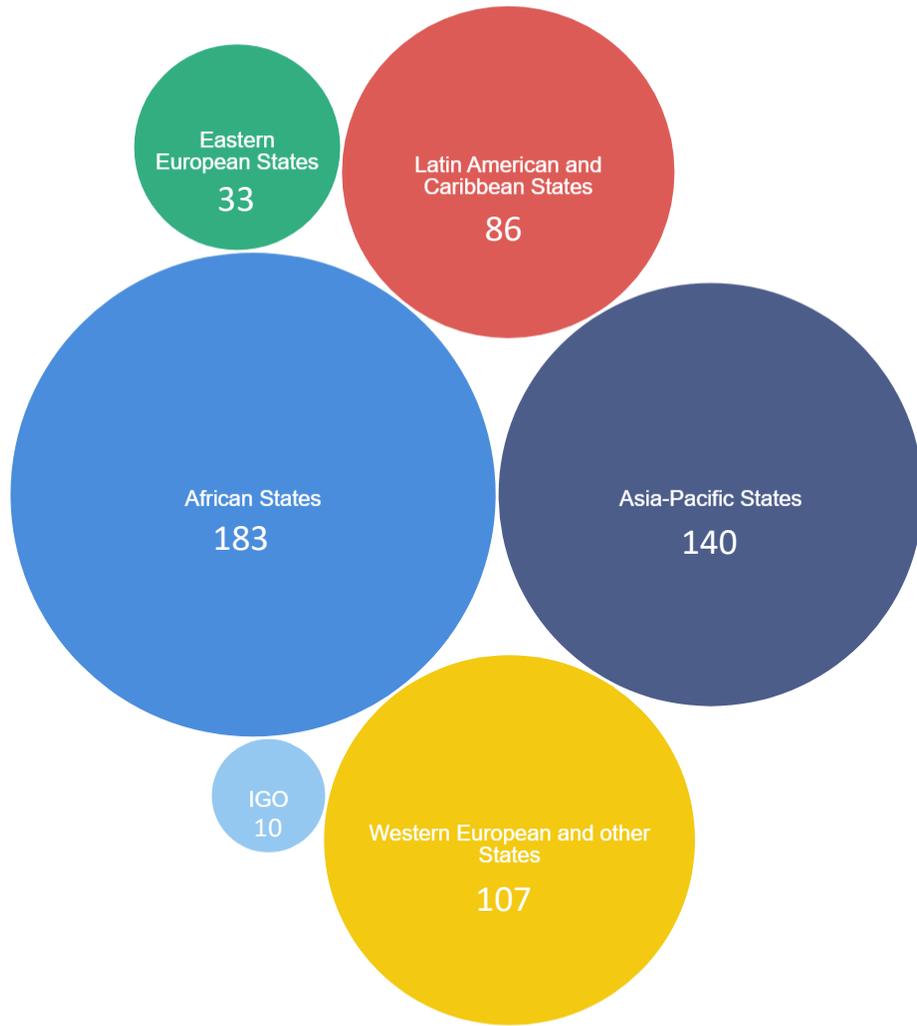
GHG Eligible experts by party type and experience

● Experienced ● New

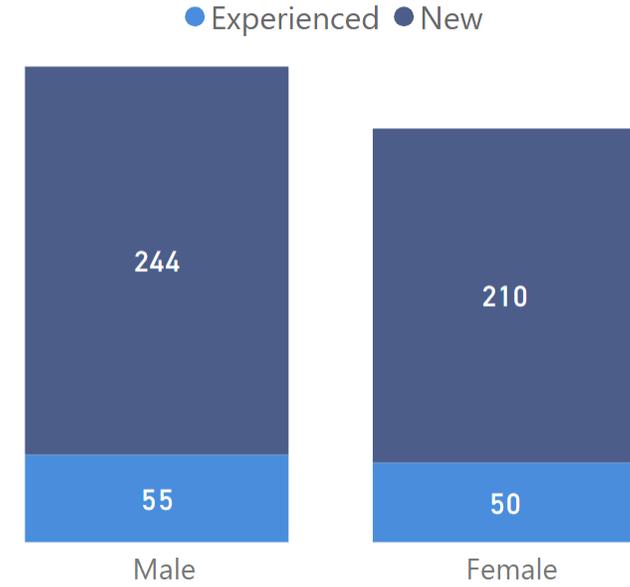


GHG Disaggregation

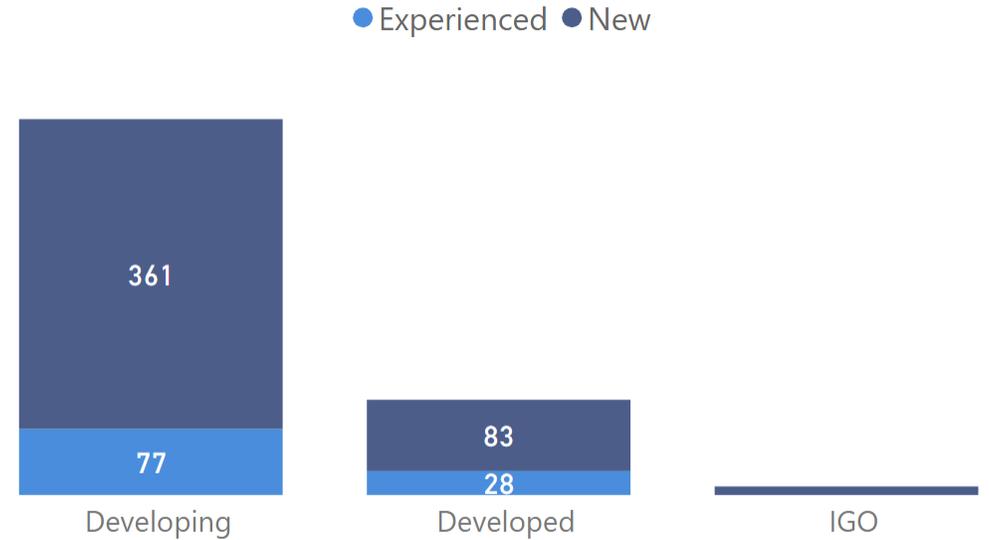
NDC eligible experts per UN Region



NDC Eligible experts by gender and experience

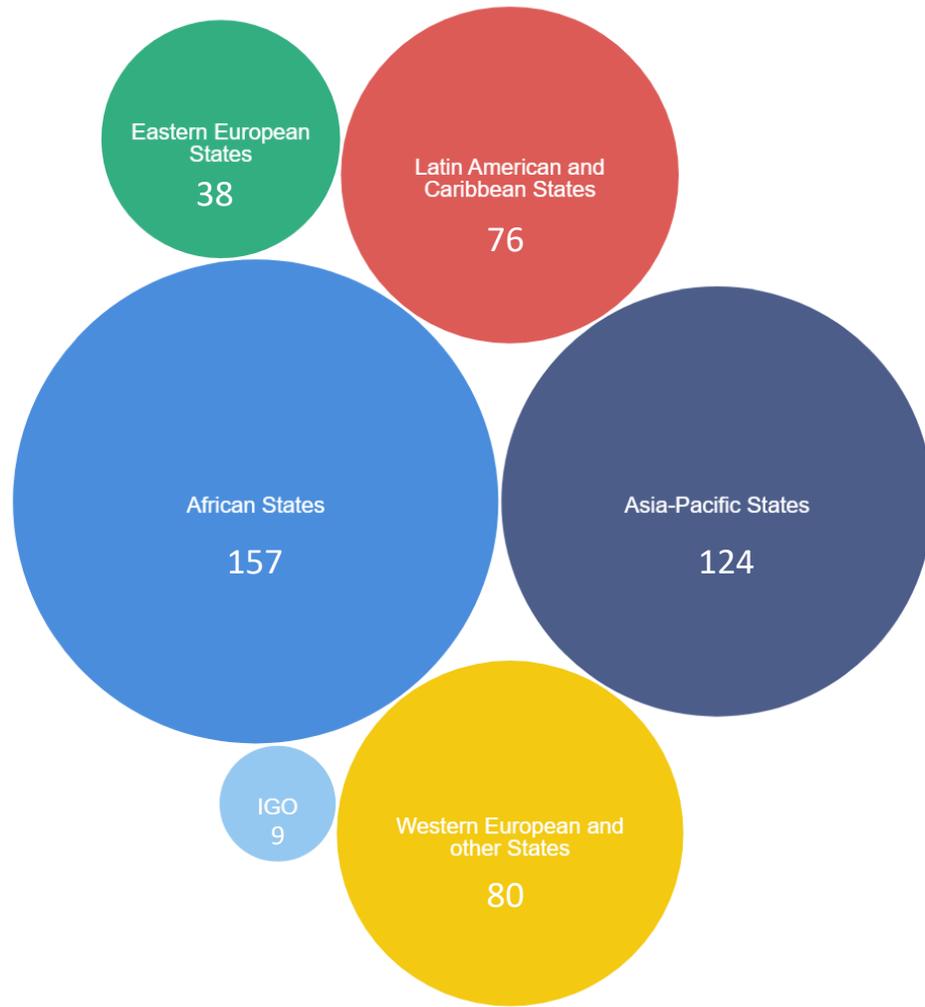


NDC Eligible experts by party type and experience

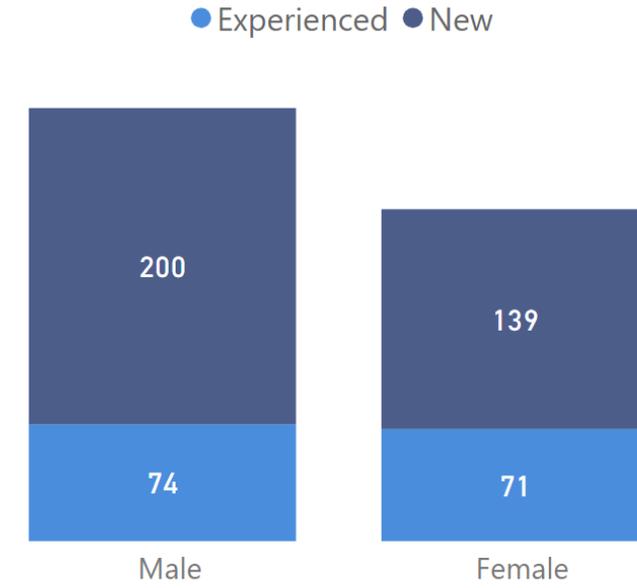


NDC Disaggregation

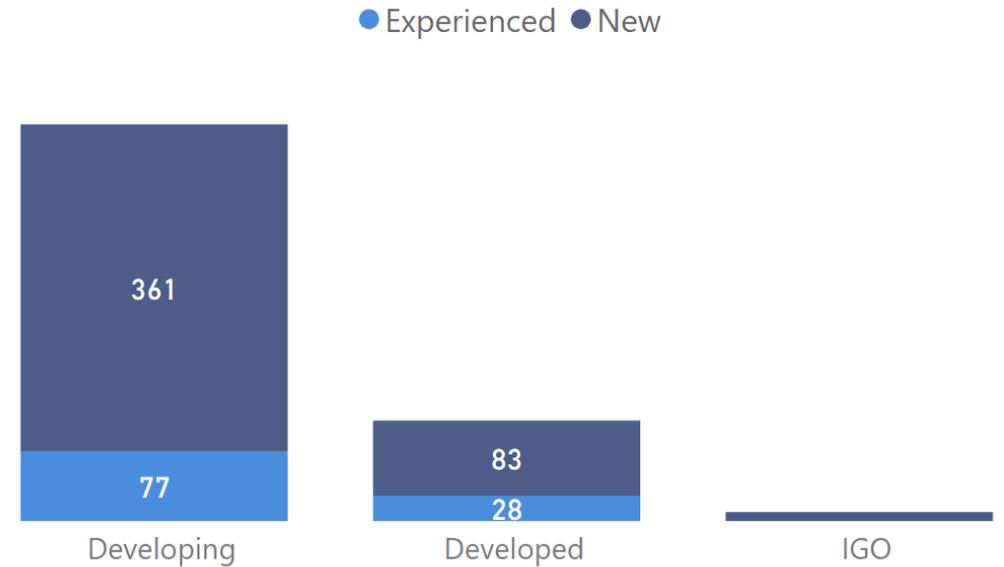
FTC eligible experts per UN Region



FTC Eligible experts by gender and experience

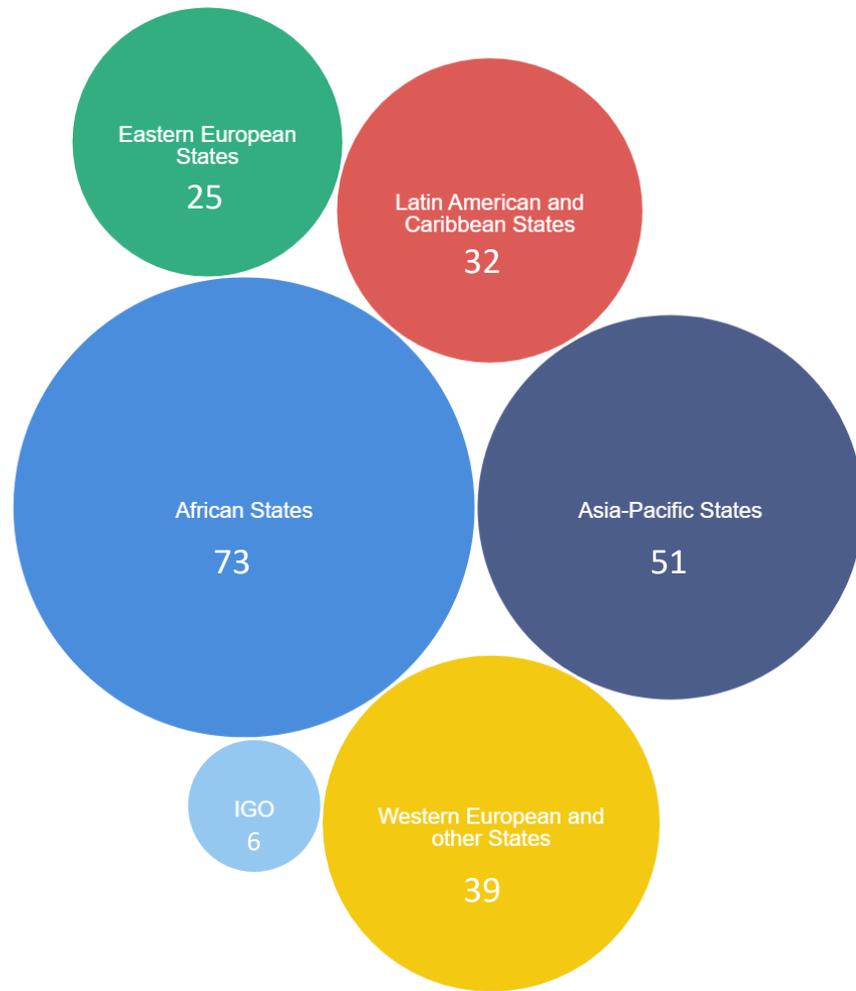


FTC Eligible experts by party type and experience

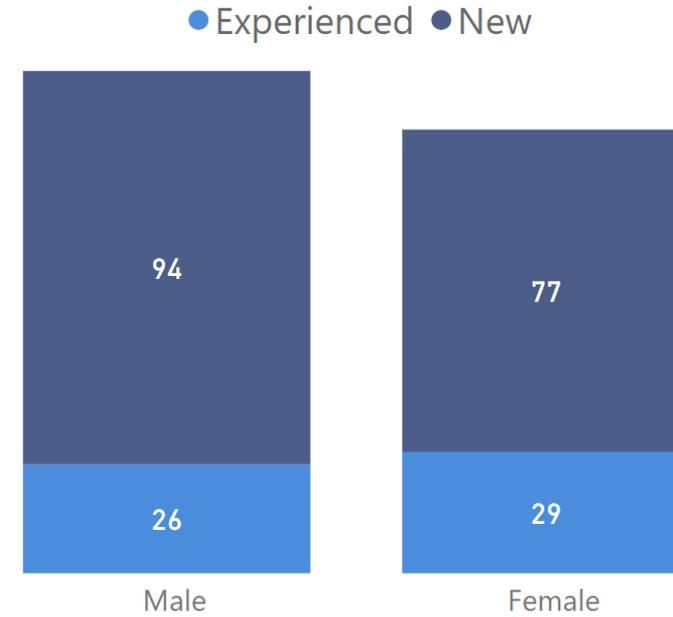


FTC Disaggregation

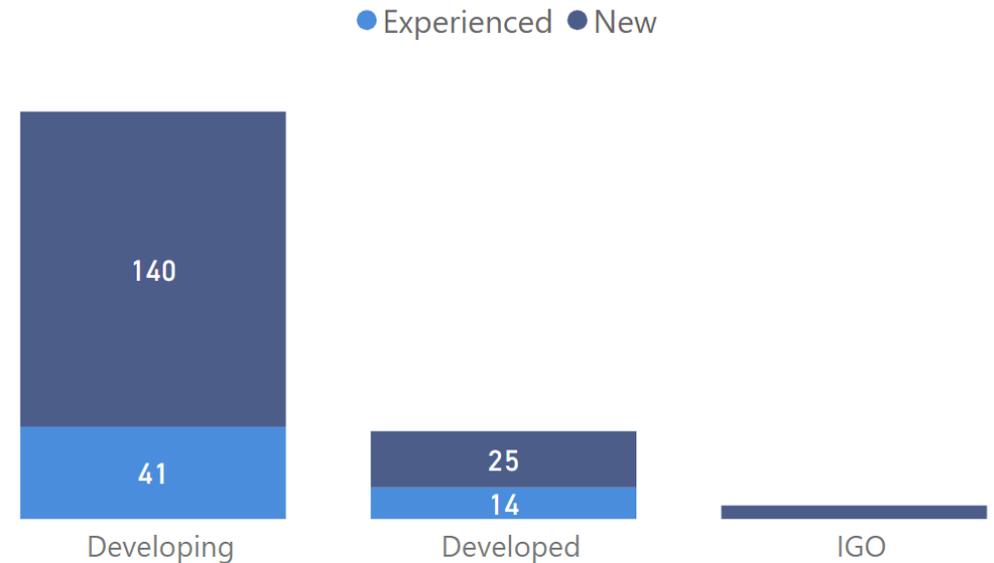
Adaptation eligible experts per UN Region



Adapt Eligible experts by gender and experience



Adapt Eligible experts by party type and experience



Adaptation Disaggregation

Courses A, B, C & D

Results until May 2025

Total # of experts that passed course A	1554
# of experienced* experts who passed	454
# of new experts who passed	1100

Total # of experts that passed courses C	
Total # of experts that passed courses C1	850
Total # of experts that passed courses C2	817
Total # of experts that passed courses C3	575
Total # of experts that passed courses C4	482

Total # of experts that passed course D	495
# of experienced* experts who passed	73
# of new experts who passed	422

Total # of experts that passed courses B	
Total # of experts that passed courses B1	611
Total # of experts that passed courses B2	190
Total # of experts that passed courses B3	144
Total # of experts that passed courses B4	81
Total # of experts that passed courses B5	110
Total # of experts that passed courses B6	103

*Experienced based on definition of para.8 decision5/CMA.3, Annex VII



Courses B & C details

Results until May 2025

of experienced* experts who passed courses A and

Total # of experts that passed courses C1	188
Total # of experts that passed courses C2	183
Total # of experts that passed courses C3	85
Total # of experts that passed courses C4	82

of new experts who passed courses A and

Total # of experts that passed courses C1	646
Total # of experts that passed courses C2	619
Total # of experts that passed courses C3	483
Total # of experts that passed courses C4	395

of experienced* experts who passed courses A and

Total # of experts that passed courses B1	20
Total # of experts that passed courses B2	10
Total # of experts that passed courses B3	13
Total # of experts that passed courses B4	6
Total # of experts that passed courses B5	7
Total # of experts that passed courses B6	14

of new experts who passed courses A and

Total # of experts that passed courses B1	578
Total # of experts that passed courses B2	177
Total # of experts that passed courses B3	130
Total # of experts that passed courses B4	74
Total # of experts that passed courses B5	103
Total # of experts that passed courses B6	89

*Experienced based on definition of para.8 decision5/CMA.3, Annex VII





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Questions

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Related events at SB62

- In-person hands-on training on BTR Technical Expert Review (NDC Tracking)
 - When: Tue 24 June 10:30 to 12:00
 - @ AHH V-U-111
- In-person hands-on training on BTR Technical Expert Review (Adaptation support)
 - When: Tue 24 June 13:30 to 15:00
 - @ AHH V-U-111



